

**To:** caroljsc@aol.com[]  
**Cc:** debbie@nynjbaykeeper.org;CN=Ray Basso/OU=R2/O=USEPA/C=US@EPA[]; N=Ray Basso/OU=R2/O=USEPA/C=US@EPA[]  
**Bcc:** []  
**From:** CN=Dave Kluesner/OU=R2/O=USEPA/C=US  
**Sent:** Tue 12/23/2008 10:12:24 PM  
**Subject:** Re: Passaic River Cleanup Documents  
[Start Listening Now](#)

Hi Carol. Let's touch base the week of Jan 5 - 9 and re-group once the food is digested and melted away (yeah right). We can discuss how to make this work, the CAG and TASC and discuss the broader issues of technical assistance and stakeholder group involvement. Happy holidays!

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David Kluesner - Public Affairs  
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caroljsc@aol.com  
12/23/2008 10:44 AM  
To Dave Kluesner/R2/USEPA/US@EPA, debbie@nynjbaykeeper.org, Ray Basso/R2/USEPA/US@EPA  
cc  
Subject Re: Passaic River Cleanup Documents

Dear David, Ray and Debbie,

I just wanted to follow-up on David's email response to Debbie re: PRC and the products of their TAG, and my discussion with Ray at the Public Hearing Re re: Technical Assistance Support Contract.

I appreciate you offer of help and follow-up to ensure that the local community has the resources it needs to be a true partner in this Tierra cleanup. Just a few points:

1. We have decided locally that we wish to form a CAG in order to have technical resources we need to review all Tierra plans going forward. I'm not sure what you need from us to initiate this process. We are aware of the experience of the Hudson River CAG and that seems like an important resource for the community.
2. We, ICC, remains concerned about the TAG award, since no work has been in the local community by PRC for a number of years. ICC is committed to being a full participant in this process, which begins with the Tierra action and then will be followed by the Focused Feasibility Study clean-up and, subsequently, the larger clean-up of the 18 miles. We need to identify financial resources to provide the staff support to this community most affected by the dioxin contamination of the River. We welcome suggestions of what resources we might tap into that EPA is aware of, and perhaps could facilitate.
3. Beyond that, I mentioned to Ray at the Public Hearing that we are interested in a TASC to provide independent technical assistance to the community. Ray sent me a write-on the program and I left a message that we were interested in pursuing this. I'm not sure where we are, or if anything else is

required of us at this point.

We are grateful for your assistance as well as our colleague organizations, the NY/NJ Baykeeper, NRDC and the Hackensack Riverkeeper. Together we all have a mammoth responsibility and an incredible opportunity to reclaim the Passaic River.

I hope everyone has time for rest, relaxation and rejuvenation at the time that Earth presents its shortest days, preparing again for the flowering of new life in the Spring.

Carol

-----Original Message-----

From: Kluesner.Dave@epamail.epa.gov

To: Debbie Mans <debbie@nynjbaykeeper.org>

Cc: caroljsc@aol.com

Sent: Mon, 22 Dec 2008 10:44 am

Subject: Re: FW: Passaic River Cleanup Documents

Hi Debbie - if you have any difficulties getting any documents from PRC, please let me know. I would expect PRC to be cooperative in sharing the products of their TAG. PRC applied for an additional \$50,000 and additional time. EPA has not yet awarded the additional funds and extension of time. Their application is going through the approval process and will not be completed until after the first of the year.

Under the federal regulations governing Superfund TAG, grantees are eligible to apply for more funds, additional time beyond the initial \$50,000 if they meet several of 10 specific criteria. If they can demonstrate to EPA that they meet the criteria, and that they are meeting the terms and conditions which apply under their existing grant, they are likely to receive the additional funds.

EPA is looking at, and raised the issue at recent public forums, the possibility of tapping into the Technical Assistance Support Contract for focused technical expertise. That's one possible way to get more technical assistance. We're also exploring the possibility of getting facilitation support for a Community Advisory Group should EPA be approached with a request to form a CAG for the removal project (or removal plus early action?). CAGs can be an effective tool for sharing information and providing input on key decisions. EPA can provide administrative support to help the CAG. One critical support tool is an independent neutral to help facilitate the CAG. EPA provides facilitators for the Hudson River CAG and the Ringwood CAG for example. The yearly cost that EPA absorbs with these facilitators is around \$15,000 to \$20,000 per CAG and it greatly enhances the likelihood that the CAG will be a highly functioning entity. The facilitators are paid by EPA but work for the CAG members.

With regard to PRC and the removal, we're trying to get their contact information more widely advertised should the Ironbound community or others request technical assistance. PRC should reach out to and provide, as appropriate, assistance on the removal project. With the Superfund TAG PRC is also covering the 8-mile focused feasibility study (a lot of action on that to take place in 2009) and the 17-mile study

plus Newark Bay. The \$50,000 won't go far in covering all those geographic areas and multiple projects. Therefore, we all have to sort of figure out what's reasonable, and who should focus on what and when....we'll get there.....

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"Debbie Mans"  
<[debbie@nynjbaykeeper.org](mailto:debbie@nynjbaykeeper.org)>  
To  
Dave Kluesner/R2/USEPA/US@EPA  
12/19/2008 10:47 AM cc  
<[caroljsc@aol.com](mailto:caroljsc@aol.com)>  
Subject  
FW: Passaic River Cleanup Documents

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David  
I hope you are well. I just wanted to let you know that I am trying to work directly with Ella to obtain any documents or information generated under PRC's TAG. Is it correct that the EPA just granted them another \$50,000 and an extension?  
Thanks ,Debbie

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From: Debbie Mans [<mailto:debbie@nynjbaykeeper.org>]  
Sent: Friday, December 19, 2008 10:46 AM  
To: '[prcwater@aol.com](mailto:prcwater@aol.com)'  
Subject: Passaic River Cleanup Documents

Ella

I am just writing to follow-up on our conversation after the last PDT meeting re sharing of any documents PRC has generated related to the implementation of your TAG. Please let me know how you would like to proceed, as I think they would be helpful to the larger group as we move into the new year.

Thanks and have a great holiday season, Debbie

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